

**TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD INDIAN NATION, MONTANA**

Volume 20 Number 70
Zoom Meeting

Held: July 7, 2020
Approved: July 9, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shelly Fyant, Chairwoman; Anita Matt, Vice-Chairwoman; Ellie Bundy McLeod, Secretary; Martin Charlo, Treasurer; Carole Lankford; James “Bing” Matt; Fred Matt; Charmel Gillin; Mike Dolson; and Len TwoTeeth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jennifer Trahan, Council Office Manager; James Steele, Sr., Sergeant at Arms; and Abby Dupuis, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to **order** at 9:04 a.m. Quorum established.

The meeting was opened with a **prayer** by Len TwoTeeth.

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for June 30, 2020 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Len TwoTeeth to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for June 30, 2020, with corrections. Seconded by Ellie Bundy McLeod. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **Tribal Council Meeting Minutes** for July 3, 2020 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Carole Lankford to approve the Tribal Council Meeting Minutes for July 3, 2020, with corrections. Seconded by Anita Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

The **agenda** was presented for approval.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the agenda, with changes. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

Rick Eneas, Financial Management; **Chuck Reese**, Information Technologies; and **Mark Couture** and **Tara Irvine**, Tribal Lands Department; requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Mike Dolson to work directly with T-Mobile to move their Cell on Wheels (COW) with a zero rental for six months. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 7 for; 2 opposed (Len TwoTeeth and Shelly Fyant); 1 abstention (Anita Matt – due to lack of information).

***Charmel Gillin**, for the record, “I believe this recommendation brought to us gives us the opportunity to bring new business in the near future and the important opportunity to complete the towers in a timely fashion according to CARES Act requirements.”*

James Steele, Jean Matt, Steve McDonald, Dale Nelson, Rob McDonald, and **Mark Clary**, Unified Command Team, gave an update. **Mark Clary** reported that there was a large amount of traffic in the valley over the July 4 weekend. People are still coming here and our cases will continue to climb. **Jean Matt** commented we do not have control over the things with people traveling. The Shelter In Place is an order that the CSKT is following, but others are not following it. It is a risk for people to leave their home, but it is their choice. **James Steele** reported that there has been an exponential surge in fatalities and infections due to COVID-19. Our numbers are increasing considerably from where we had been. That is the future. Sanders County got their first positive case.

Greg Gould reported that Lake County has 25 cases and 14 of those are active. The contact tracing at this point is being counted in the hundreds. It is quite significant. There are 4 presumptive cases. The persons tested positive on the rapid test but are being confirmed at the State lab. There is an error rate with the rapid tests, so the protocol is to send it to the lab for confirmation. One of those cases is a tribal employee. Contact tracing is going forth on that case. Missoula County has a sharp uptick with 121 total cases. Flathead County is growing, and hotspots still remain. There will be a mass testing event at the rodeo grounds in Hot Springs on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A surge in Hot Springs is expected after the mass testing is done and the team is preparing for that. The mayor agreed to close the road from the Senior Center to the Post Office for an alternative site if the weather gets bad. **Rob McDonald** has been busy playing catch up with the information.

James Steele reminded the Tribal Council of the transition plan. James and Jean will switch positions where Jean serves as the main Incident Commander. Mark Clary will be the Incident Commander for the County. Rod Couture will transition out of Logistics and Dale Nelson will step in. Steve McDonald will transition out and Lisa Shourds will continue doing documentation and producing the Incident Action Plan. Jean Matt will facilitate the meetings. Greg Gould will transition out and Chelsea Kleinmeyer will be in that position. If all of a sudden there is an incredible surge and both agencies (tribal/county) feel the team should be brought back together as it is currently, they can do that.

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James would be deputy and Jean would remain as the primary.

Dale Nelson reported that we had some rain events, but hopefully we will not be affected during the flood season. They are gearing up for the fire season. There were a lot of people in Polson over the weekend. Dale went to Bigfork and about 90% of the people were wearing a mask. **Chairwoman Fyant** acknowledged the team for the hard work they have done during this pandemic, and she thanked them for functioning in those leadership roles. **Anita Matt** thanked everybody. It has been pretty hard for them to have two different jobs at once, but they have done a fantastic job keeping the council updated. **Martin Charlo** thanked the team. He worked closely with them and he knows the hard work that has gone into this, along with the long hours and stress. **James Steele** commented that this has been an unusual exercise for him to deal with that you cannot put your hands on and having to do it remotely. Technology has really come through. Later today a group from the team and Martin Charlo will be remotely meeting with the Division of Fire folks and help them walk through large fire scenarios and how they can receive out of area firefighters should any fire exceed their capabilities. The regional forecast shows July relatively normal, which means a lot of initial attack fires. We have seen a tremendous amount of lightning. It is predicted that August and September will be greater than normal.

Mark Clary was on Highway 28 on June 30th, and he observed license plates while he was there. He highlighted different states on the map, and there were 35 states that were represented on Highway 28 that day. Most of the vehicles were from the east coast, along with California and Washington. People are not staying home, and they continue to come to Montana to escape. Mark went to an RV camp this morning for a fire call and that place was more packed than he has ever seen it. People think this is the place to hide out, and that is what is going to get us; people infecting us from out of state. You cannot control what people do. Fireworks retailers should have had a banner year. It was the most fireworks he has ever seen here. **Jean Matt** commented that the cases continue to rise, and we have not hit the second surge yet. The team will continue to make this plan with imperfect information. The team does not have everything to work off of. The group will continue to monitor this and share information. The reports are important, and the team will continue sharing the information with the Tribal Council. He thanked everyone that is transitioning off the team.

Anita Matt thanked Jean for responding to her question about an event across the bridge. It was mentioned to quite a few people, and she does not know if they got enough opposition and did not have it. **Jean Matt** told her that the new owner received calls from the Governor's Office and he reluctantly said he did not have a reason to close. There were some people that went. He liked Rob's messaging saying that you do not have to go just because they are having it. It came down to people's choices. **Greg Gould** showed the new numbers as of this morning, and Lake County now has 22 cases. Yellowstone County has the most

cases in the state. **Carole Lankford** thanked the team for their hard work and dedication. **Steve McDonald** expressed his appreciation to the Tribal Council and acknowledged Shelly and Martin for showing up at the mass testing events.

Jean Matt, Mission Valley Power, requested approval of the fiscal year 2021 operating budget.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve the fiscal year 2021 operating budget for Mission Valley Power. Seconded by Fred Matt. Carried, unanimous (10 present).

***** **Break** *****

Tony Incashola, Jr. and **James Lozeau**, Tribal Forestry, requested a modification to the contract with Watershed Restoration Group to extend the date to October for the tree planting.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve a modification to the contract with Watershed Restoration Group to extend the date to October for the tree planting. Seconded by Mike Dolson. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Chairwoman Fyant reminded everyone of the mass testing event at the Hot Springs rodeo grounds this Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Louis Fiddler, Law & Order, requested approval to move a contract employee from the Elders program to Law & Order in an FTE position. The Personnel Department told him he needs council action to do that. The employee would be ending the contract early for the position in DHRD.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to end the current contract and allow the employee to move to Law & Order in an FTE position. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Patricia Courchane, Department of Human Resources Development, requested approval to apply for the Families First grant through the Administration of Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance for fiscal year 2020 Funding Opportunity; Grants for the Coordination of Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Welfare Services to Tribal Families at Risk of Child Abuse or Neglect for a five-year period.

MOTION by Anita Matt to approve by resolution submission of the Families First grant through the Administration of Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance for fiscal year 2020 Funding Opportunity; Grants for the Coordination of Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and

Child Welfare Services to Tribal Families at Risk of Child Abuse or Neglect for a five-year period. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 9 for; 0 opposed; 1 abstention (Len TwoTeeth).

RESOLUTION 20-122

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE FOR FY 2020 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY; GRANTS FOR COORDINATION OF TRIBAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES TO TRIBAL FAMILIES AT RISK OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES:

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes is the duly recognized governing body of the Flathead Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes are committed to the sound planning management of the Flathead Reservation resources; and

WHEREAS, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have directed the Department of Human Resource Development (DHRD) to continue efforts to seek resources for the families in need including seeking additional resources to assist the families in their daily living;

WHEREAS, DHRD is currently operating child abuse prevention services and has located a funding source to augment those youth and adult prevention methods with a prevention program with funding from ACF; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation approves the application submission to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance for FY2020 Funding Opportunity; Grants for the Coordination of Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Welfare Services to Tribal Families at Risk of Child Abuse or Neglect;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this project will be placed organizationally under and managed by The Department of Human Resource Development.

Jeanne Christopher, Paula Wolford and Carrie Antoine, Early Childhood Services, requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

Clayton Matt and **Joe Durglo**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval of addendum 3 to contract number CMV00792 Pharmacogenomics Study with the University of Montana from August 1, 2019 to July 30, 2020. This contract has been approved since 2016, which was initiated by Dr. Muzquiz. Joe did not know why addendum number 3 was never approved or processed prior to August 2019. **No action taken.** **Council** directed the Tribal Health Department to return with both addendums.

Clayton Matt and **Ashley Glass**, Tribal Health Department, requested approval to renew an employment contract with Kristin Murphy to fill the Ronan Community Health Nurse position. Kristin is currently in the position and her contract expires this month. **Charmel Gillin** asked if the other nurses receive a pay increase. Ashley said all employees under the THIP do have the two- or three-year contracts and have an opportunity for pay increases at the end of those contracts.

MOTION by Bing Matt to approve a three-year employment contract with Kristin Murphy to fill the Ronan Community Health Nurse position, with an increase in salary. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, 8 for; 2 abstentions (Len TwoTeeth and Charmel Gillin).

***** **Lunch** *****

Barry Hansen, Natural Resources Department, requested approval to hire contractor Dr. Craig Stafford for a three-week period in fiscal year 2020. Monitoring of the program to suppress lake trout for the benefit of native trout request that we annually age a subsample of lake trout to compute measures related to mortality and recruitment. It was advertised in the Char-Koosta News for two weeks and he was the only respondent.

MOTION by Martin Charlo to approve the hire of non-member contractor Dr. Craig Stafford for a three-week period in fiscal year 2020. Seconded by Bing Matt. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Greg Wilson, Natural Resources Department, requested approval of modification 7 to contractor agreement 17-090 with Stantec Consulting Services for the Crow Dam Spillway Modification Project to extend the end date to December 31, 2021.

MOTION by Fred Matt to approve modification 7 to contractor agreement 17-090 with Stantec Consulting Services for the Crow Dam Spillway Modification project to extend the end date to December 31, 2021. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Louise Mitchell, Tribal Member; and **Mark Couture**, Tribal Lands Department; discussed a proposal for Louise to do an internship at the Tribal Lands Department through the Salish Kootenai College Tribal Governance and Administration program. Louise was notified of the opportunity and showed interest in the internship. **Carole Lankford** commented that this came about from the Tribal Council's previous discussion about an inventory of tribal property so we could do a business side of leasing. Having an inventory would be beneficial for the department. **Chairwoman Fyant** would like to have a contract with a detailed description of duties for this internship.

MOTION by Fred Matt to move forward with an internship with Louise Mitchell. Seconded by Martin Charlo. Carried, unanimous (9 present – Len TwoTeeth out of the room).

Joanne Ducharme joined the discussion. **Chairwoman Fyant** informed her that the Tribal Council approved a contract with Louise Mitchell and need a detailed description of duties.

Chairwoman Fyant reminded the membership to wear a mask, wash their hands for 20 seconds, and social distance.

Mark Couture, Tribal Lands Department, requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council met in **executive session**.

Tony Incashola, Jr., Tribal Forestry, requested to meet with council in **executive session**.

Council met in **executive session**.

***** **Break** *****

Troy Felsman, S&K Gaming Board Chairman, met with council in **executive session**.

Council met in **executive session**.

Council reconvened into **regular session**.

MOTION by Martin Charlo that based on the positive tests in Lake County and the reservation and our workforce to cancel our order to vacate the Shelter In Place indefinitely. Seconded by Len TwoTeeth. Carried, 8 for; 2 opposed (Charmel Gillin and Mike Dolson).

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Mike Dolson, for the record, “I would rather keep the order and move it to two weeks so we have a definite date.”

Charmel Gillin, for the record, “I had changed my vote to that to support the same reason for my vote of opposition.”

MOTION by Anita Matt to adjourn the meeting.

Council **adjourned** at 2:55 p.m., and is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, July 9, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

/sgnd/

Ellie Bundy McLeod
Tribal Secretary